

service of the Govt. employees, specifically in respect of the aforesaid provisions of Fundamental Rules. The staff federations were also exhorted to redress their grievances through bilateral discussions or conciliation procedure as laid down under the Industrial Disputes Act.

No specific intimation has been received by the Govt. regarding further agitation intended by the postal employees in this regard.

VRS in Syndicate Bank

*6. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees and officers of Syndicate Bank who applied for Voluntary Retirement Scheme which opened in the month of November, 2000;

(b) the number of persons who have been permitted or are likely to retire under VRS;

(c) whether VRS will have any adverse effect on the working of the Bank; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure smooth working of the Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Syndicate Bank has reported that out of 7166 applications received under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, 6523 applications are likely to be accepted.

(c) and (d) In order to ensure smooth working of the bank, the bank has made proper deployment of staff keeping in view the business growth/potential, etc. and implementation of the scheme is not expected to have adverse effect on the working of the bank.